

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0059] of the presently published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0059] Interestingly, an internal aromatic amino acid residue was identified in all these dodeca-peptides. This finding is in correlation with previous evidence suggesting that aromatic residues are critical in peptide sequences that mimic surface conformations specifically recognized by sugar binding ligands. [Luo P et al. J Biol Chem.; 275(21):16146-54. (2000)]. Further, in some of these peptides, more than one internal aromatic residue was present. For example, B11 comprises two tryptophan and one tyrosine internal residues (SEQ ID NO: 7: . . . WSMWY . . .), and F7 and G3 both comprise two aromatic residues (SEQ ID NO: 8: . . . WELKMY . . . and SEQ ID NO: 9: . . . WEKHTW . . . , respectively). Thus, according to one aspect, the amino acid molecules according to the invention comprise one or more internal aromatic residues.

Please replace paragraph [0157] of the presently published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0157] To further investigate if the B11 peptide is a true mimotope of the ManLAM, mice experimentally infected with Mtb that have never been exposed to the peptide were tested for development of antibodies that recognize the B11 peptide, similar to the Abs developed against ManLAM. To this end, thirty days (n=6) and three months (n=4) after an experimental Mtb infection, sera of BALB/c mice were tested for the presence of IgG that recognized ManLAM and B11 peptide, and were compared to naive mice (n=6). In the Mtb-infected mice IgG Abs which binds both ManLAM and B11 peptide were detected, at levels significantly higher than those of the naive mice ($p<0.01$). The antibody levels binding ManLAM as well to B11 peptide were similar (FIG. 3). The same results were obtained when the ELISA assay was performed with or without the extra cysteine at the amino terminus of the synthetic peptide (data not shown). This gave additional evidence that the peptide with the cysteine (SEQ ID NO: 10: CISLTEWSMWYRH) maintained binding properties to ManLAM-binding antibodies as the original peptide selected (SEQ ID NO: 1: ISLTEWSMWYRH).